[*English*]

Smuggling of Arms from Indo-Pak Border

622. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge quantity of arms and ammunitions are being smuggled in India from Pakistan at Indo-Pak border of Ganga Nagar district;

(b) if so, the number of persons arrested during last three months and the quantity of arms seized from them; and

(c) the steps being taken to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) It is true that attempts have been made to smuggle arms and ammunition in India from Pakistan on Indo-Pak border of Ganganagar District.

(b) The number of persons arrested during the last three months and the quantity arms seized from them is as under:-

	Number of persons arrested	:	100	
	Quantity of Arms seized			
i)	AK-56 Rifles	:	34	Nos.
ii)	Magazine assorted	:	142	Nos.
iii)	Pistol	:	06	Nos.
iv)	Grenade launcher	:	01	No.

(c) With a view to prevent smuggling, border forces have been strengthened both in force, and in equipment and weaponary. Border fencing and flood-lighting is being done in specified areas. The intelligence set up of the border forces have been geared up and further strengthened for keeping close surveillance on the border.

[*Translation*]

Telephones to Panchayats in Backward Districts of U.P.

623. SHRIPANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide telephone services on high priority to Gram Panchayats of the most backward districts like Maharajganj, Gorakhpur etc; and

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:-